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GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF ALABAMA.¹—The first quarter of this volume of more than six hundred pages is devoted to a tolerably full consideration of the soil in its chemical and geological relations, and its relations to vegetable and animal life, with an account of the various manures and of their suitableness and action upon different kinds of soil. The second and larger part treats of the main agricultural features of the State, including an outline of its physical geography and geology. The Coosa and Tennessee valleys, coal measures district, oak and pine uplands and other regions of the State are described in detail, a list of the characteristic plants of each region is given, and the work concludes with descriptions of the agricultural resources of the counties, and cultural and economic details of cotton production. An agricultural map and maps showing the rainfall, temperature, area planted in cotton, etc., add greatly to the usefulness of the work.

RECENT BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS.

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Beecher, C. E.—Ceratiocaridæ from the Chemung and Waverly groups at Warren, Pennsylvania. Harrisburg, 1884. From the author.

Thomiot, A.—Sur un Mabuya d'espèce nouvelle, also Note sur un poisson de la famille des Cyprinodontidæ. Ext. du Bulletin de la Soc. Philomathique de Paris, Mars, 1881. From the author.

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—Sur la présence, aux temps anciens et modernes de la baleine de Biscaye (ou Nordcaper) sur les côtes de Norwège. Ext. idem. Both from the author.

Wadsworth, M. E.—Methods of instruction in Mineralogy. Abs. of paper read before Soc. Nat. E. U. S., Dec. 27, 1883, also letter to Science, Aug. 8, 1884.

—Notes on the rocks and ore-deposits in the vicinity of Notre Dame bay, Newfoundland. Ext. Am. Jour. of Science, Vol. xxviii, Aug., 1884.

—The fortieth parallel rocks. Ext. Proc. Bost. Soc. Nat. Hist., Vol. xxii, Oct., 1883.

—On the evidence that the Earth's interior is solid. Ext. Amer. Nat., June, 1884. All from the author.

¹ *Geological Survey of Alabama.* Report for the years 1881 and 1882. By EUGENE ALLEN SMITH, Ph.D., State geologist. 1883.